

Pasadena Chamber of Commerce
865 East Del Mar Boulevard
Pasadena, CA 91101

February 13, 2003

Honorable Michael Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20544

RE: CC Docket No. 01-338. Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers

Dear Chairman Powell:

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce is a membership organization of over 1,400 businesses, both large and small. Our members have expressed great frustration over the continued uncertainty in the telecommunications industry. It has come to our attention that the FCC is again reviewing the regulations under which telecommunications companies will operate. We want the commission to be aware that the continued lack of a level playing field for telecommunications companies in our community has stifled competition and driven up prices, especially for our small businesses.

As the President of this organization, I am taking this opportunity to advise you that the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce believes the FCC should establish a nationwide framework that is fair and equitable to all telecommunications companies in order to create an environment that encourages competition and leads to further investment in an infrastructure incorporating the latest technologies.

We strongly urge the commission to eliminate the unbundled network element platform (UNE-P), which is a disincentive to investment in infrastructure and growth, and eliminate other unbundling requirements where facilities-based competition has developed. It is critical that the commission act quickly to adopt the regulations needed to ensure long-term, sustainable competition in the telecommunications industry, not only for the benefit of all of our businesses but also for the benefit of our community as a whole.

Sincerely,

Lynne C. Hess
President and CEO